

Message Text

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ORIGIN ARA-14

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY NASSAU PRIORITY
MIAMI RECEPTION CENTER

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ASEC, PORS, PINS, CASC, CARR, EFIS, PBOR

SUBJECT: BAHAMIAN SECURITY CONCERNS FOLLOWING AUGUST 11
FISHING INCIDENT

REF: (A) NASSAU 1802 (B) NASSAU 1932

1. OVER THE LAST TWO DAYS BAHAMIAN AMBASSADOR JOHNSON
HAS EXPRESSED SEVERAL TIMES HIS GOVERNMENT'S CONCERN
FOR THE PHYSICAL SAFETY OF BAHAMIAN INSTALLATIONS
IN THE U.S. IN THE WAKE OF THE AUGUST 11 FISHING
INCIDENT INVOLVING AMERICAN CITIZENS AND CUBAN-
AMERICAN RESIDENTS IN BAHAMIAN WATERS. JOHNSON HAS
INDICATED THAT AFTER THE BAHAMIANS FIRST ASSERTED
CONTROL OF THEIR SPINY LOBSTER IN 1975, SEVERAL
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BAHAMIAN INSTALLATIONS RECEIVED THREATS AND A
FEW WERE ACTUALLY BOMBED. AMONG THOSE THREATENED
WERE THE BAHAMAS AIR OPERATION IN MIAMI, THE BAHAMIAN
CONSULATE, AND THE BAHAMIAN TOURIST OFFICE ALL IN MIAMI.
HE HAS ASKED THAT APPROPRIATE SECURITY MEASURES BE
TAKEN TO PROTECT THESE BAHAMIAN INSTALLATIONS IN
THE U.S. IN THE FACE OF AN INCREASED THREAT.

2. JOHNSON SAID HE THOUGHT THE MOST LIKELY TIME FOR DEMONSTRATIONS OR OTHER ACTION AGAINST BAHAMIAN INSTALLATIONS WOULD BE DURING OR AFTER THE TRIAL OF THE FISHERMEN CAUGHT IN BAHAMIAN WATERS. THE TRIAL IS SCHEDULED TO BEGIN SEPT. 4TH IN NASSAU. HE ALSO SAID THAT THE CORAL GABLES (FLORIDA) POLICE HAD NOTIFIED THE BAHAMIAN CONSULATE TO EXPECT DEMONSTRATIONS AT ONE OR MORE BAHAMIAN INSTALLATION ANY TIME AFTER THE FILING OF A \$15 MILLION LAW SUIT IN FEDERAL COURT IN MIAMI BY THE PARENTS OF THE 14 YEAR OLD BOY SERIOUSLY WOUNDED IN THE INCIDENT. ACCORDING TO JOHNSON, THERE WAS A DEMONSTRATION OF 75 CUBAN-AMERICANS AT THE COURT HOUSE WHEN THE LAW SUIT WAS FILED AUG. 30TH.

3. THE SY COMMAND CENTER IN WASHINGTON HAS BEEN NOTIFIED OF THE GCOB CONCERNS AND HAS INDICATED THAT ADDITIONAL LOCAL POLICE PROTECTION HAS BEEN REQUESTED FOR THE BAHAMIAN CONSULATE, THE TOURIST OFFICE, AND THE OFFICE OF BAHAMAS AIR IN MIAMI. A COPY OF THE SUIT FILED BY THE PARENTS IS BEING POUCHED TO EMBASSY NASSAU. CHRISTOPHER

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Message Attributes

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Disposition Approved on Date:
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